

Federal Communications Commission

§ 13.203

EXAMINATION SYSTEM

§ 13.201 Qualifying for a commercial operator license or endorsement.

(a) To be qualified to hold any commercial radio operator license, an applicant must have a satisfactory knowledge of FCC rules and must have the ability to send correctly and receive correctly spoken messages in the English language.

(b) An applicant must pass an examination for the issuance of a new commercial radio operator license, other than the Restricted Radiotelephone Operator Permit and the Restricted Radiotelephone Operator Permit-Limited Use, and for each change in operator class. An applicant must pass an examination for the issuance of a new Ship Radar Endorsement. Each application for the class of license or endorsement specified below must pass, or otherwise receive credit for, the corresponding examination elements:

(1) First Class Radiotelegraph Operator's Certificate.

(i) Telegraphy Elements 3 and 4;

(ii) Written Elements 1, 5, and 6;

(iii) Applicant must be at least 21 years old;

(iv) Applicant must have one year of experience in sending and receiving public correspondence by radiotelegraph at a public coast station, a ship station, or both.

(2) Second Class Radiotelegraph Operator's Certificate.

(i) Telegraphy Elements 1 and 2;

(ii) Written Elements 1, 5, and 6.

(3) Third Class Radiotelegraph Operator's Certificate.

(i) Telegraphy Elements 1 and 2;

(ii) Written Elements 1 and 5.

(4) General Radiotelephone Operator License: Written Elements 1 and 3.

(5) Marine Radio Operator Permit: Written Element 1.

(6) GMDSS Radio Operator's License: Written Elements 1 and 7, or a Proof of Passing Certificate (PPC) issued by the United States Coast Guard or its designee representing a certificate of competency from a Coast Guard-approved training course for a GMDSS endorsement.

(7) Restricted GMDSS Radio Operator License: Written Elements 1 and 7R, or a Proof of Passing Certificate

(PPC) issued by the United States Coast Guard or its designee representing a certificate of competency from a Coast Guard-approved training course for a GMDSS endorsement.

(8) GMDSS Radio Maintainer's License: Written Elements 1, 3, and 9.

(9) Ship Radar Endorsement: Written Element 8.

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§ 13.203 Examination elements.

(a) A written examination (written Element) must prove that the examinee possesses the operational and technical qualifications to perform the duties required by a person holding that class of commercial radio operator license. Each written examination must be comprised of a question set as follows:

(1) Element 1 (formerly Elements 1 and 2): Basic radio law and operating practice with which every maritime radio operator should be familiar. 24 questions concerning provisions of laws, treaties, regulations, and operating procedures and practices generally followed or required in communicating by means of radiotelephone stations. The minimum passing score is 18 questions answered correctly.

(2) Element 3: General radiotelephone. 76 questions concerning electronic fundamentals and techniques required to adjust, repair, and maintain radio transmitters and receivers at stations licensed by the FCC in the aviation, maritime, and international fixed public radio services. The minimum passing score is 57 questions answered correctly.

(3) Element 5: Radiotelegraph operating practice. 50 questions concerning radio operating procedures and practices generally followed or required in communicating by means of radiotelegraph stations primarily other than in the maritime mobile services of public correspondence. The minimum passing score is 38 questions answered correctly.

(4) Element 6: Advanced radiotelegraph. 100 questions concerning technical, legal and other matters applicable to the operation of all classes of radiotelegraph stations, including